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CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM PARIS.

PARIS, April 18, 1872.—It may not be uninteresting to the typographers of your country, and all connected with typography, now in a fair way to become one of the fine arts, to know that printing presses cannot be too much multiplied, and that the demands for printing are increasing every year, not merely for books, journals, and pamphlets, but for advertisements, which in some large commercial houses, are taking the form of elaborate catalogues. Typography has, however, kept even step with the increasing demands, and, through the continual improvements made in its machinery, is ever producing new results in the way of rapidity and completeness. The printing department will be specially, and even sumptuously represented, at the next Universal Exhibition, which is to open at Lyons on the first of May. Among the competitors in these jousts of printing, we announce the printing establishment of Mr. Francesco Vigo, which is distinguishing itself in the production of works of irreproachable taste and perfection of characters.

Among the kings under whose rule the art has received one of its most vigorous impulses, is the Abbé Migne, whose extensive establishments were destroyed by fire in 1868. The Abbé is one of the most prominent figures in the long line of typographers. His immense printing establishment gave employ to a multitude of men and women, who lived at Montrouge near the workshops. He is represented as a perfect Hercules in muscular

power, an indefatigable worker, and a kind master. The printing department has not been reorganized since the fire, and he is now solely engaged in his book-store. His lawsuit with the eighteen fire insurance companies which had insured him to the amount of 5,171,000 fr. is quite a curious event in typographical annals. In calculating the damage, the question bore especially upon the exact loss of the stereotype plates, which were found at the scene of the disaster in shapeless ingots of 500,000 kilogrammes. The Abbé wished that the actual cost of the plates should be taken as a basis of appraisement, and the companies maintained that a deduction for no-value should be made for the use they had already been put to. The courts decided in favor of the Abbé, after a four years long debate.

It will be gratifying to your readers to hear that whilst good pictures all fetched their price at the last public sales, rare books and MSS. are sought with equal ardor, and that the amateurs do not hesitate at any price set upon them. At the sales of the 13th January, 1872, a prayer-book of the XVth century, containing 31 well-preserved miniatures, and which had successively been the property of the two families Châtillon and Sanglier, fetched 8,400 francs. The same volume had figured at two celebrated sales in the XVIIIth century, and sold in one instance for 290 livres, and in the other for 425 livres. A *livret*, written in 1652, by Nicolas Jarry (*Preces christianæ cum parvo officio beatæ virginis*, etc.) in 16mo. of 172 pages, very elegantly bound, and in perfect preservation, reached the figure 11,500 francs. Another one of the same character, of the XVIIth century, containing eight miniatures, of which several had originally been accompanied with a text, now cancelled, brought no less than 15,550 francs.

The Librairie des Bibliophiles is throwing stones into the garden of the patriarch of the romantic school, with *F. Ponsard*, by Jules Janin, Flameng's Portrait, and a little volume by Albert Millaud, of Elzevirian shape, entitled *Petite Némésis*. The first is from beginning to end a witty antithesis, Victor Hugo's favorite rhetorical figure, and gives the lion of letters an occasional slap; the second mimics jocosely the great poet, in the little satire entitled *Le Mandat Contractuel*, one among the many funny things contained in the *Petite Némésis*. The following example will show the character of the take-off:

> La lime mord, le fer gémit, le marteau frappe,
> Le menuisier menuise, et le bon sapeur sape,
> Et le forgeron forge, et l' écrivain écrit.
> Ame, rêve. Cerveau, bouillonne. Cherche, esprit.

Mr. Taine has just made another happy descent into the underground of British literature. This time he has got hold of letters, written between 1792 and 1795, by an anonymous English lady. Arrested and imprisoned at Amiens, this unknown lady has no very great tenderness for the revolutionists of that period. She condemns their doctrines andtheir acts because she loves, above all things, liberty, security, the legal and representative government of the true interests of a nation. She judges in a very precise manner and in a very formal style the men and things of this feverish period. "If I had an aunt of such a disposition," says Mr. Taine, very jocosely, "I should pay her my respects with all due exactness, and on special occasions might even ask her advice; I should respect her principles and wish there were many women like her in my country, but I should not seek my habitual pleasure in her society." We recommend our friends to do the same in reading her book.

Mr. François Coppée, in his new volume of poetry, has exalted those that tread the humbler walks of life—the nurse, the grocer, the cart driver, the man at the railroad switch, the soldier. His muse is decidedly democratic.

From Mr. Pratt, we have lately received the translation of the *Traité Théologico-Politique*, of the philosopher of Amsterdam, Benedict de Spinoza. This traité appeared in Amsterdam in 1670, seven years after the "Principles" of Descartes. It was originally written in Latin.

In the mystical literature we have, by M. de Brumore (Guyton), a translation from the Latin into the French, of the *Traité Curieux des Charmes de l'Amour Conjugal dans ce monde et dans l'autre*, of Emmanuel Swedenborg. Mr. Matter remarks that Swedenborg was better acquainted with the taste and morals of the French, than with their philosophical doctrines and spiritual tendencies, which at that time were very undecided, and apparently narrow. But he knew what the French language was capable of, and he committed his "Delights of Conjugal Love" to Holland. This was very judicious. These "Delights," described by an author eighty years old, have, in themselves, nothing that can shock the most scrupulous reader; and yet it would not have been wise to risk their publication in France, or prudent even to ask the Government to authorize it. In Holland even, the *Traité* was not very well appreciated, and very probably its title stood considerably in the way.

Swedenborg's plan was therefore a very good one. He went to Amsterdam in 1768, to have *l'Amour Conjugal* printed, which work would, from there, appear with better propriety in London and Paris. It appeared as early as the months of August and September. It is very curious that Voltaire, who was wide awake to all that appeared new on the horizon of letters, is totally silent in regard to the new prophet-philosopher.

Messrs. Jouaust and Louis Lacour deserve our thanks for the elegant work they have been doing in the way of verbatim and literatim reprints of original editions of Molière. There are but three reliable editions of Molière's Comedies: 1, the original editions which appeared partly during his lifetime, and of which he corrected the proof-sheets himself; 2, the incomplete edition of 1673, the last one, according to some writers, which he revised, and 3, the complete edition, brought out in 1682 by his friends, Varlet de Lagrange and Vinot. These are the only three upon which editors can base a good text. The third is even preferable to the second. Everything leaves us to suppose that the latter was published independently of Molière, and was merely a publisher's enterprise. The two first volumes reproduce, word for word, those of 1666; the five others are made up from partial editions that had appeared before, and which the publishers wished to make use of. If Molière had had anything to do with this edition, he would probably have made some changes in those two reprints, and would have required also the reprint of the five others.

But what confirms us particularly in our opinion, are the differences noticeable in the edition of 1682, which represents the last text of the author. In fact, Molière, as the leader of the troupe, and having every power over it, made them evidently respect, until his death, all the successive modifications which he made in his first version. Now, he died suddenly; not only great celebrity, but also general respect followed his memory: most of his former companions, his wife included, whose veneration for her husband's talent, although posthumous, was no less real, and Lagrange, whose troupe always recognized his authority; all these would certainly preserve the master's text after his death. They were still living in 1682, and there is

no doubt that the edition was based upon the parts held by them, and is therefore Molière's own text.

Nevertheless, it is well to preserve that of the *princeps* editions, which differs very little from the one just mentioned. These editions are very rare, and it is well to put them, by reprints faithful even to servility, within the reach of a few hundred amateurs who want them. There is, in the first place, a literary advantage in being able to study, in their first form, works like those of the great Comedian, and the slightest difference has sometimes value in the eyes of the student, to say nothing of the pleasure of discovering in these earlier texts, archaïsms in the orthography, and the characters employed, and even in systematic misprints. In view of this, we should have even preferred to find in Messrs. Lacour and Jouaust's late publication the reprint of certain characters, and especially the long *s*, in use in the 17th century. One great advantage to be observed in this work is the accuracy with which the earlier punctuation has been followed. In works written for the theatre, the punctuation may give an idea of the rendering of an actor, and sometimes even several certain scenic effects, since forgotten. Every comedian that plays the classics should study from original editions. He will always be well repaid for his pains, and will discover much that escapes the most skilful correctors of the old punctuation.

We hope these successful reprints will soon be followed by those of the remainder of his works.

Mr. M. E. Caro has collected into a volume entitled, *Les Jours d'Epreuves*, the pages published in the "*Revue des Deux Mondes*," during the period of the siege and the insurrection, and in the midst of the struggle of the serious literature with these two enemies equally fatal to our country, the Prussians, and the Commune. To keep oneself in constant communication with the public sentiment is a secret of influence and success; the best qualities of Mr. Caro's mind appear in those pages written under the excitement of peril, and amidst the emotions of a courageous struggle.

Mr. T. Travers has given us lately, in a work entitled, *Essai sur la Vie et les Œuvres de Jean Vauquelin de la Fresnaie*, a good edition of the works of this poet-magistrate of the 16th century. Vauquelin de la Fresnaie was a magistrate in Normandy, who cultivated the muses at his leisure hours, and was, so to say, Boileau's precursor. Mr. Travers has busied himself for some years past in giving to the literary public, curious about old French poetry, a good edition of the works of Vauquelin de la Fresnaie, and is completing it now with a critical biography of the poet. Vauquelin possessed in a high degree that vivacity of sentiment which Boileau was wanting in, and his works will be read with interest by all lovers of poetry. R.

FROM CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, April 5.— What we said in our last letter of the new interest displayed here since "The Fire" in the direction of general publishing seems to be finding full comfirmation in recent events. The fact noticed in one of the last issues of the TRADE CIRCULAR thus appropriately supplements the premise we ventured at that time in regard to Mr. S. C. Griggs' withdrawal from the General Book Trade for the purpose of giving his energy and undivided attention to the business of publishing, and we know of no one here in the Northwest whose resources and experience so well fit him to lead a movement of this kind. In addition to the works he has already put out from time to time in connection with his Book Trade, we understand he has in press and forthcoming another text-book in the department of Greek Literature from the careful hand of James R. Boise, Ph. D., so favorably known already to the teaching fraternity both East and West through his former published works; a Latin text-book by Prof. Thompson, of Yale College (recently appointed to a chair in the college at Constantinople, we understand); a Swedish-Norwegian Grammar by a Chicago Lutheran clergyman; and a volume of essays from the pen of Prof. William Mathews, LL. D., who occupies the chair of English Literature and Rhetoric in the University of Chicago, and who is best known perhaps through his scholarly contributions to the newspaper press and magazine literature of the country—here at the West, especially, through his editorial contributions to the *Chicago Tribune*, and his polished essays in the *Lakeside Monthly*:

This volume will contain the fruit of years of thought and profound scholarship, and will no doubt meet with the ready appreciation it deserves. Messrs. Thompson & Co. have also several things on hand, and have just issued the first of a series of popular books on law topics, and designed for general circulation among the people. The title of this first is "Landlord and Tenant," and it embodies general facts, stated in plain language, which it is important that every one sustaining any of these relations should know. The rest of the series is forthcoming.

Mr. James Cockroft, publisher of the Life of Burke, has also an important work in hand, of which we shall hear more soon.

"When and How" and "How Not To" are the titles of two books recently issued by A. W. Penny & Co. The author is Daniel Newcomb, M. D., a Chicago physician, old school, in good standing. These books have already attracted considerable attention by reason of their peculiar titles and the vigorous style of the subject matter. The first treats more particularly of the laws of health as related to the generation and "bringing-up" of children. The latter is a bold assertion in plain language of some truths of course well known to the medical fraternity, but not so well known to the general public, but which the author thinks in justice to humanity ought to be disseminated. It no doubt will have a wide sale.

The Record is the title of a new practical, illustrated journal, the first number of which will be issued early in May and will be published by Mr. H. V. Reed, so well known already through his intimate relations to the *Lakeside Monthly*.

It will be in some respects more like the *Aldine* than anything else published in this country, but will not aim to reach its high degree of art excellence, and will be of a more practical nature.

Illustrations seems to be the order of the day and *The Landowner*, a real estate journal here, has reached quite a wide circulation through its profuse illustration of the new buildings now being erected.

The *Chicago Post* has also enlarged its weekly edition for the purpose of introducing this feature into its columns, and starts out with a portrait of Hon. John V. Farwell in this week's issue. We forgot to mention, by the way, while speaking of *The Record*, that the first number will contain, besides much other matter of interest, a portrait and sketch of Mr. S. C. Griggs.

"*Relief*" is the title of a little humorous drama by a Chicago lady, hitting off some of the idiosyncracies of the Relief and Aid Society here. It was enacted by the young ladies of the Dearborn Seminary some weeks since, and has been issued by the University Publishing Company, in pamphlet form, It has a good sale.

There are several other topics of interest that we

would like to touch upon, but must omit for want of time. C. G.

ADVANCE BOOK-NOTES.

[*This department is intended to include descriptive notices, from advance sheets, of all books of popular sale. Booksellers will thus be enabled to order knowingly and confidently on books likely to sell well in their localities, and to obtain such information as to the character of new publications as will "post" them for calling the attention of particular customers to books likely to suit their taste. Advance sheets for use in this department should be forwarded by publishers at earliest convenient date.*—ED.]

The Rose Garden, by the author of "Unawares," which Roberts Bros. will publish in tasteful binding (cloth 16mo, pp. 285, $1.50) about the 20th, is one of the most delightful books that can possibly be offered for summer reading. It is a charming and delicious novel, scarcely less delicate and delightful than those of Miss Thackeray, with whom the authoress has been almost universally compared by the English critics. The story is located in Bayonne, Southern France, where is "the rose garden." Two cousins are the heroines, and the plot is delightfully worked out, abounding in nice description, full of color, delightful in the simplicity with which the effect is produced, and exquisite in characterization. A slight idealization lends additional beauty to the work.

The Nether Side of New York is the title under which Mr. Edward Crapsey has been publishing in the *Galaxy* one of its most interesting and popular series of papers. Mr. Crapsey has been for many years one of the best reporters on the staff of the New York *Times*, representing it especially at police headquarters, and has thus had peculiar opportunities for seeing the dark side of life in the great city. This book reproduces, with revision, the *Galaxy* papers, and has much new matter, partly on subjects which it was not thought best to deal with in the magazine. Mr. Crapsey's work is no silly sensational outcry; it gives the facts and the figures as to crime and poverty in New York, and they are indeed much stranger and more startling than any mere inventions could be. The gambling and policy-shops, the business of "fences," or receivers of stolen goods, some of whom are among the most remarkable and even prepossessing men in New York, the profession of burglary, the tenement-house horror—all these and more are described with accuracy and power in elaborated and well-written chapters, which must arouse any thoughtful man or woman. Sheldon & Co. will publish the book in a few days.

Mireio is an exquisite love poem of Frederick Mistral, the Provençal poet, whose genius was the subject of a tribute of high praise in the last *Scribner's*. It will be published in exquisite style, with charming vignette by Billings, and red-line pages throughout, by Roberts Bros., in about ten days. Miss Harriet W. Preston, who has made a special study of the Provençal dialect for this purpose, has translated the poem into stanzas of six lines each, after the manner of William Morris, to whom Mistral is indeed best to be compared, and most successfully. It is a narrative idyl, describing most charmingly the heroine and telling of her loves and lovers. One canto gives a delightful description of the whole mulberry harvest. The poem is of a rare charm and admirably suitable for summer reading.

Julius Cæsar will be the next volume in Mr. Rolfe's popular Shakespeare series. It repeats the merits of the previous issues, the notes being full as copious and interesting, the illustrations equally good, and the summary of the history and sources of the play as attractively written. The critical comments are selected with judgment, those of Hazlitt, Knight, Ulrici, Crake, and other authorities being reprinted. The volume is worthy a place with the others, which we are pleased to learn are finding their way into many colleges and schools, as well as among the general students of Shakespeare.

Studies in Poetry and Philosophy is the title of J. C. Shairp's latest volume, to be issued here shortly by Hurd & Houghton. It includes four essays, respectively on Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keble, and "The Moral Motive Power," each distinct and complete in itself, yet all united by that deeply religious sentiment which so characterizes Mr. Shairp's writing, directing all to the illumination of the relations between divine and human life. Wordsworth, the prophet of nature, interpreted the relations between the elemental powers of creation and the moral life of man; Coleridge, the thinker, sought a philosophy of the supersensual life; Keble, the singer, applied both these worlds of thought, so far as they fitted, into the limitations of his own ecclesiastical system. The closing essay, which seeks through the ethical systems of Aristotle, Plato, Kant, Butler, Mill and the general utilitarian school, finding only fragmentary suggestions, discovers the true "moral motive power"—the propulsive force toward ideal perfection—in Christianity alone. Christ not only told what was good, but inspired the love and power of being good. The papers throughout are vigorous and refreshing. In reviewing the poets, the pretentious attempt is not made to assign them their place in literature, but by pointing to some of the sources of delight which he has found in them, Mr. Shairp hopes to induce others to study them and find the same.

Lord Kilgobbin will be published soon in book form by the Harpers. Its wide celebrity through the pages of the *Bazar* render description needless here, but the probability of its being the final work of the favorite novelist make it peculiarly interesting. Charles Lever dedicates his volume thus: "To the memory of one whose companionship made the happiness of a long life, and whose loss has left me helpless, I dedicate this book, written in breaking health and broken spirits. The task, that was once my joy and my pride, I have lived to find associated with my sorrow; it is not, then, without a cause I say, I hope this effort may be my last."

LITERARY AND TRADE GOSSIP.

JAS. R. OSGOOD & CO. will publish immediately an enlarged campaign edition of James Parton's Life of Horace Greeley, and "Three Books of Song," a new volume by Longfellow.

LEE & SHEPARD have issued the first volume of a valuable series of Latin text-books called "The Latin School Series," and edited by the veteran head-master Francis Gardener, assisted by A. M. Gay and A. H. Buck, sub-masters in the same school. This volume contains extracts from Phædrus, Justin, Nepos, etc., with copious notes and a vocabulary.

A. D. F. RANDOLPH & CO. will have ready, in a few days, "Walking with God: The Life Hid with Christ," a new book by Irenæus of the N. Y. *Observer*, in which he treats, in his usual spirit and manner, of the life of the soul in communion with God, while in daily, active and absorbing

duties and pleasures. The work is eminently practical and devotional, and is fitted to stimulate to the higher Christian life and lead the way.

LITTLE, BROWN & Co. will shortly publish "The Rise of the Republic of the United States," by Hon. Richard Frothingham.

HORATIUS BONAR'S "Song of the New Creation" will be issued by the Carters this week.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT & Co. will have ready in a few days, the first part of The Concordance to Shakespeare's Poems, by Mrs. Horace Howard Furness. This part will contain the Index to every word in "Venus and Adonis." The second part, containing the "Rape of Lucrece," "The Sonnets," etc., will follow shortly, and will also contain the first part, incorporated with the others in its due order.

EGGLESTON'S "Hoosier Schoolmaster" is very favorably reviewed by some of the London papers. It is pronounced an "artistic work of fiction," and that the incidents are described with great power and skill. A new novel by this favorite writer, "The End of the World," has just been commenced in *Hearth and Home.*

HOLT & WILLIAMS, by special arrangement with the author, will publish Thomas Hughes' "Two Weeks at the West."

ROBERTS BROS. are preparing for publication Retzsch's Outline Illustrations of Bürger's Ballads, with new translations. They also will publish A. Bronson Alcott's "Concord Days," a book descriptive of life in the town of Concord, Mass.

Z. TOPELIUS AND SOPHIE SCHWARTZ. The following testimonial—a letter addressed to one of the two ladies to whom American readers owe the introduction of Swedish fiction—has special value, as showing the absence of all rivalry, and the sympathy of genius with genius:

[TRANSLATION.]

Fröken Selma Borg: You desire to learn my opinion with regard to the publication of Z. Topelius's work in England. My Fröken, what Swedish works could possibly be worthy of translation if not his?

The "Surgeon's Stories" occupy the highest rank in the historical romance literature of the North, and Topelius's writings for children are true pearls of the noblest kind.

With deepest respect for the celebrated author, I congratulate you upon having the honor of making America familiar with the productions of his genius.

With utmost esteem,

MARIE SOPHIE SCHWARTZ.

STOCKHOLM, October 25, 1871.

THE family of the late Rev. F. D. Maurice will be very grateful to any friends who will intrust them with letters, as an aid in the preparation of a memoir. The letters will be copied and returned. Any directions sent with them, as to the extent to which they may be employed, will be carefully attended to. The letters may be sent either to Mrs. Maurice, 2 Brunswick Place, Regent's Park, N.W.; or to F. Maurice, Esq., R.A., 1 The Terrace, York Town, Farnborough Station, Hants; or to C. E. Maurice, Esq., 21 Beaumont street, Cavendish Square, W.

ROBERT BROWNING'S new poem will be entititled "Fifine at the Fair," and will be published early in May by the Osgoods.

THE new edition of Mr. C. W. King's "Antique Gems and Rings" has a curious additional chapter on the portraiture of the ancients. The work also contains additional engravings, illustrating savage lapidary art, jade carvings, Aztec sculpture, and Chinese glyptics.

A NEW work, entitled "Modern Turkey," in one volume, from the pen of Mr. J. Lewis Farley, the Consul of the Porte at Bristol, will shortly be issued by Messrs. Hurst & Blackett.

A NEW illustrated journal of Odontology will shortly appear in London, entitled the *Monthly Review of Dental Surgery.* Among the contributors will be Messrs. Tomes, Cartwright, Hepburn, Berkeley Hill and Oakley Coles.

HENRI TAINE'S "Notes on England" will be published in a few days by Holt & Williams. The London *Examiner* describes the notes "as written in a sprightly, laconic, hurried, off-hand style, which carries the reader along from point to point at an exhilarating pace, and never permits him to halt or grow weary.

EDMOND ABOUT has in press two new novels, entitled "The Merchant of Nantes," and "The Prisoner of the War."

THE Agricultural Society of France offers a prize of 2,000 francs and a medal for the best memoir "On the Theory and Practice of Irrigation." The papers are to be sent to the Secretary before the end of this year.

THE proprietors of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* are going to publish a history of *The Review* with notices of its chief contributors, and of their papers, from the correspondence in the editor's office.

T. O. WEIGEL, the well-known publisher of Leipzig, and the author, with the co-operation of the late Dr. A. Zestermann, of a valuable work on early printing, "Die Anfänge der Druckerkunst in Bild and Schrift," advertises to be sold at auction at Leipzig, on the 27th of May and on the following days, the whole of his precious stock of materials collected for the illustration of the above-mentioned work. The descriptive catalogue, of which only a few copies have reached this country, and for an opportunity of examining which we are indebted to Mr. F. W. Christern, is itself a book of value, and no mean addition to the library of a student of such matters. Mr. Weigel describes it as, in fact, an abridgment of his larger work, and as capable of being used as an introduction to the study of it. It contains twelve illustrations, and is drawn up with great precision, every piece being minutely described, and all those of remarkable importance marked with one, two, or three asterisks, according to the rarity or other noteworthy feature of each specimen.—*Nation.*

WITH the next number, the publication of *The Week* will be transferred to Messrs. Holt & Williams, No. 25 Bond street, New York, from whose offices it will hereafter be issued. The editorial management remains the same as from the beginning, and the general features of the paper will also remain the same, though it will be the constant aim of editor and publishers alike to enlarge the scope of the paper, to widen its field, and increase its usefulness.

As a preliminary to further improvements which are in contemplation, the size and shape of the pages of *The Week* will be changed to a more convenient form, and their number increased to twenty-four. Other changes will be duly advertised in the next issue.

SELECTIONS FROM FAVORITE PRESCRIPTIONS of Living American Practitioners, by Dr. Horace Green (Wiley & Son).—To the second edition of this valuable work, the title of which sufficiently indicates the author's intentions, has been added a carefully prepared toxicological table, in which

are exhibited the symptoms of poisoning, the antidotes for each poison, and the tests for their detection. Christison's division of poisons has been adopted. The value of the work to the practitioner will be enhanced by this addition. The large and clear print of the book greatly facilitates frequent reference.

BOOK AUCTIONS.

TUESDAY, May 14, at 3 o'clock P. M., and following days.—Regular parcel sale of English and American books.—Bangs, Merwin & Co., 694 and 696 Broadway, N. Y.

TUESDAY, May 14, at 7:30 o'clock P. M.—An extensive and valuable collection of fine art and illustrated works, superb galleries of engravings, etc. —Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., Clinton Hall Book Sale Rooms, N. Y.

MONDAY, May 20, at 4 o'clock P. M.—A valuable collection of books on natural sciences, facetiæ, foreign literature, bibliography, illustrated voyages, etc., mainly from the library of Prof. G. Vrolik of Amsterdam.

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P. H. MINER & CO., Rome, N. Y.

1 Roorbach's Bibliotheca Americana, 1850 to May, 1855.

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It is not often that a new professional book is permitted, by common consent, and immediately after its appearance, to take its place at the very head of the class which it represents. Such, however, has been the case with the above named work. We have already received from every quarter of the Union the most unqualified decision to that effect, both from the professional journals, and from civil engineers of high standing. The *American Railway Times*, of Boston, one of the oldest and ablest engineering periodicals in the country, concludes a very favorable criticism of the book, as follows:

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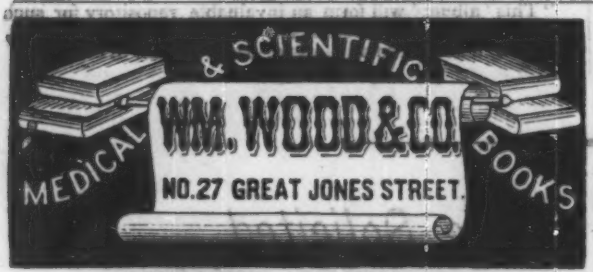

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